

CHAPTER 39
FILING RETURN AND PAYMENT OF TAX

[Prior to 12/17/86, Revenue Department[730]]

701—39.1(422) Who must file.

39.1(1) *Residents of Iowa for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993.* For each taxable year, every resident of Iowa, except any resident claimed as a dependent on another person's return, whose net income is greater than \$13,500 in the case of married persons filing jointly, filing separately on a combined return or filing separate returns, unmarried heads of household and surviving spouses or greater than \$9,000 in the case of single persons must make, sign, and file a return. Each resident who is claimed as a dependent on another person's return and whose net income is \$4,000 or more, or whose net income is \$5,000 or more for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, must make, sign, and file a return. For purposes of this subrule, the portion of a lump sum distribution subject to separate federal tax is included in net income to determine if a person has to file a return.

39.1(2) *Nonresidents of Iowa.*

a. Tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993. For each taxable year, every nonresident of Iowa must make, sign, and file an Iowa return if the nonresident has a net income of \$1,000 or more from Iowa sources and meets one or more of the following conditions: (1) has a net income from all sources that is greater than \$13,500 in the case of married persons filing jointly, filing separately on a combined return or filing separate returns, unmarried heads of household and surviving spouses, (2) has a net income from all sources greater than \$9,000 in the case of single persons, (3) is claimed as a dependent on another person's return and has a net income from all sources of \$4,000 or more or has a net income from all sources of \$5,000 or more if the tax year begins on or after January 1, 2001. For purposes of this paragraph, the portion of a lump sum distribution subject to separate federal tax that is allocable to Iowa is included in net income to determine if the nonresident has sufficient net income to make and file a return.

b. Nonresidents with net incomes of less than \$1,000 that are subject to Iowa alternative minimum tax. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2000, every nonresident of Iowa who has a net income from Iowa sources of less than \$1,000 must make, sign, and file a return if the nonresident is subject to Iowa alternative minimum tax.

39.1(3) *Part-year residents of Iowa.*

a. Tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993. For each taxable year, every part-year resident of Iowa must make, sign, and file a return if the individual has a net income of \$1,000 or more from Iowa sources and meets one or more of the following conditions: (1) has a net income from all sources that is greater than \$13,500 in the case of married persons filing jointly, filing separately on a combined return form or filing separate returns, unmarried heads of household and surviving spouses, (2) has a net income from all sources that is greater than \$9,000 in the case of a single person, or (3) is claimed as a dependent on another person's return and had a net income from all sources of \$4,000 or more. For purposes of this paragraph, the portion of a lump sum distribution that is allocable to Iowa is included in net income to determine if the person has sufficient net income to make and file a return.

b. Part-year residents with net incomes of less than \$1,000 that are subject to Iowa alternative minimum tax. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2000, every part-year resident of Iowa who has a net income from Iowa sources of less than \$1,000 must make, sign and file a return if the part-year resident is subject to Iowa alternative minimum tax.

39.1(4) *Returns of the handicapped.* If a taxpayer is physically or mentally unable to make a return, the return shall be made by a duly authorized agent, guardian or other person charged with the care of the person or property of such taxpayer. A power of attorney must accompany a return made by an agent or guardian.

39.1(5) *Minimum income requirement.* See rules 701—40.1(422) to 40.52(422) and any subsequent rules in Chapter 40 for the computation of net income to determine if a taxpayer meets the minimum filing requirements described in subrules 39.1(1), 39.1(2), and 39.1(3).

39.1(6) *Final return.* If a taxpayer has died during the year, see paragraph 39.4(2)“d.”

39.1(7) *Returns filed for refund.* A taxpayer whose Iowa source net income or all source net income is less than the amount for which the filing of an Iowa individual income tax return is required must file a return to receive a refund of Iowa income tax withheld or Iowa estimate tax paid in the tax year or to receive a refund from an Iowa refundable tax credit. Refundable tax credits include the child and dependent care credit, the research activities credit, the motor vehicle fuel tax credit, the claim of right credit (if elected in accordance with rule 701—38.18(422)), the assistive device credit, the historic preservation and cultural and entertainment district tax credit, the ethanol blended gasoline tax credit and the investment tax credit for value-added agricultural products or biotechnology-related processes.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.5 and 422.13.

701—39.2(422) Time and place for filing.

39.2(1) *Returns of individuals.* A return of income must be filed on or before the due date. The due date is the last day of the fourth month following the close of the taxpayer's taxable year, whether the return be made on the basis of the calendar year or for a fiscal year, or the last day of the period covered by an extension of time granted by the department. When the due date falls on Saturday, Sunday or a legal holiday, the return will be due the first business day following the Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. If a return is placed in the mails, properly addressed and postage paid, in ample time to reach the department on or before the due date for filing, no penalty will attach should the return not be received until after that date. Mailed returns should be addressed to Income Tax Return Processing, Department of Revenue, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Farmers and fishermen have the same filing due date as other individual taxpayers, however, those farmers and fishermen who have elected not to file a declaration of estimated tax shall file their returns and pay the tax due, on or before March 1, to avoid penalty for underpayment of estimated tax.

39.2(2) *Extension of time for filing returns for tax years beginning prior to January 1, 1986.* Rescinded IAB 11/24/04, effective 12/29/04.

39.2(3) *Extension of time for filing returns for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1986, but before January 1, 1991.* Rescinded IAB 11/24/04, effective 12/29/04.

39.2(4) *Extension of time for returns for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1991.* The taxpayer is required to file the taxpayer's individual income tax return on or before the due date of the return with payment in full of the amount required to be shown due with the return. However, in any instance where the taxpayer is unable to file the return by the due date because of illness or death in the taxpayer's immediate family, unavoidable absence of the taxpayer, or other legitimate reason, the director may grant a six-month extension of time to file the return.

If the taxpayer has paid at least 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due by the due date and has not filed a return by the due date, the director will consider that the taxpayer has requested an extension of time to file the return and will automatically grant an extension of up to six months to file the return. The taxpayer does not have to file an application for extension form with the department to get the automatic extension to file the return within the six-month period after the due date and not be subject to penalty. However, if the taxpayer wants to make a tax payment to ensure that at least 90 percent of the tax has been paid on or before the due date, the payment should be made with the Iowa tax voucher form. This form can be requested from the Taxpayer Services Section, P.O. Box 10457, Des Moines, Iowa 50306, or by telephone at (515)281-3114.

To determine whether or not at least 90 percent of the tax was “paid” on or before the due date, the aggregate amount of tax credits applicable on the return plus the tax payments made on or before the due date are divided by the tax required to be shown due on the return. The tax required to be shown on the return is the sum of the income tax, lump-sum tax, minimum tax, and school district income surtax. The tax credits applicable are the credits set out in Iowa Code sections 422.8, 422.10, 422.11A, 422.11B, 422.11C, 422.12, 422.12B, 422.12C and 422.111. The tax payments to be considered for purposes of determining if 90 percent of the tax was paid are the withholding tax payments, estimate payments, and the payments made with the Iowa income tax voucher form to ensure that 90 percent of the tax was paid timely.

If the aggregate of the tax credits and the tax payments are equal to or greater than 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due, the taxpayer will have met the “90 percent” test and no penalty will be assessed. However, the taxpayer will still be subject to statutory interest on any tax due when the return is filed.

Any tax elections, such as the election to carry forward a net operating loss occurring in the tax year, will be considered to be valid in instances when the return is filed within the six-month extended period after the due date. The fact that the taxpayer has paid less than 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due will not invalidate any tax elections made on the return, if the return is filed within the six-month extended period.

a. Extensions for taxpayers with tax homes outside the United States and Puerto Rico. Taxpayers with tax homes outside the United States and Puerto Rico may, in some situations, be granted additional time to file their federal income tax returns beyond the six-month period after the federal due date. In some cases, this additional time is needed to meet residency time requirements in a foreign country so the taxpayer will be eligible for the foreign income exclusion which is also applicable to filing Iowa income tax returns. In cases where the taxpayer’s tax home is outside the United States and the taxpayer has been granted additional time to file the federal income tax return which is greater than six months from the due date, the taxpayer will be deemed to have the same additional time to file the Iowa return and not be subject to penalty for late filing if 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due on the return was paid by the due date. Taxpayers with tax elections filing returns under these circumstances will be considered to have made these elections timely. However, the taxpayers should attach to their Iowa return documentation showing they were granted additional time after the six-month period from the due date to file their federal returns.

b. Payment of interest on refunds from income tax returns filed in the six-month period after the due date. The following information applies only to Iowa individual income tax returns that are filed for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1999. In the case of Iowa returns that have overpayments of income tax that are filed in the six-month period after the due date and where at least 90 percent of the tax shown due was paid by the due date, interest at the statutory rate will be paid on the overpayments determined on the returns, starting on the first day of the second month after the end of the six-month extended period and ending in the month in which the refund is issued.

For taxpayers filing Iowa individual income tax returns for calendar-year tax years, the six-month extended period starts May 1 of the year following the end of the tax year and ends on October 31 of the year following the end of the tax year. However, if April 30 falls on a Sunday as it does in the year 2000 for 1999 Iowa individual returns filed in that year, the due date is moved to Monday, May 1. The extended period in this instance starts on Tuesday, May 2, 2000, and ends on October 31, 2000.

EXAMPLE. A husband and wife file their 1999 Iowa return on September 15, 2000. This return has an overpayment of tax of \$200. Because the return is filed in the six-month period after the May 1, 2000, due date, and because the refund is issued in January 2001, interest accrues on the overpayment for the months of December 2000 and January 2001.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.21 and Iowa Code Supplement section 422.25.

701—39.3(422) Form for filing.

39.3(1) *Use of and completeness of prescribed forms.* Returns shall, in all cases, be made by residents and nonresidents on forms supplied by the department of revenue. Taxpayers not supplied with the proper forms shall make application for the forms to the department, in ample time to have their returns made, verified and filed on or before the due date. Each taxpayer shall carefully prepare a return so as to fully and clearly set forth the data required. For lack of a prescribed form, a statement made by a taxpayer disclosing gross income and the deductions from gross income may be accepted as a tentative return, and if verified and filed within the prescribed time, will relieve the taxpayer from liability to penalties, provided that without unnecessary delay a tentative return is replaced by a return made on the proper form. Each question shall be answered and each direction complied with in the same manner as if the forms and instructions were embodied in these regulations. Individual resident taxpayers shall enter the name of the school district of residence on the return. If the school district is not supplied, the return shall be deemed incomplete.

A return not signed by the taxpayer or the taxpayer's agent or guardian, shall not be deemed completely executed and filed as required by law.

Failure to receive the proper form does not relieve the taxpayer from the obligation of making any return required by statute.

39.3(2) *Optional method of filing.* The front and back page of the Iowa individual income tax return, if properly completed, may be filed as an optional return, if a complete facsimile or photocopy of the federal return and supporting schedules are attached.

39.3(3) *Copy of federal income tax return to be filed by nonresident.* A nonresident taxpayer must file a copy of their federal income tax return for the current tax year with their Iowa income tax return. The copy shall include full and complete copies of all farm, business, capital gains and other schedules that were filed with the federal return.

39.3(4) *Amended returns.* If it becomes known to the taxpayer that the amount of income reported to be federal net income or Iowa taxable income was erroneously stated on the Iowa return, or changed by an Internal Revenue Service audit, or otherwise, the taxpayer shall file an amended Iowa return along with supporting schedules, to include the amended federal return if applicable. A copy of the federal revenue agent's report and notification of final federal adjustments provided by the taxpayer will be acceptable in lieu of an amended return. The assessment or refund of tax shall be dependent on the statute of limitations as set forth in 701—subrule 38.2(1) and rule 701—43.3(422).

39.3(5) *Voter's registration forms in income tax booklets and income tax return instructions.* Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1989, income tax return booklets and income tax return instructions shall include two voter registration forms. The voter registration forms to be inserted into the income tax return instruction forms and booklets are to be designed by the voter registration commission. However, effective July 1, 1992, the voter registration forms are to be inserted in the income tax return booklets and income tax return instructions only for odd-numbered tax years. Thus, the voter registration forms will not be included in the income tax return booklets for the 1992 tax year but are to be included in the booklets for 1993.

Effective July 1, 2004, the requirement that voter registration forms be included in the income tax booklets and income tax instructions has been eliminated. The official Web site of the department includes the official electronic state of Iowa voter registration form and a link to the Iowa secretary of state's official Web site.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.13, 422.21 and 422.22 and Iowa Code sections 48A.24 and 421.17 as amended by 2004 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2296.

701—39.4(422) Filing status.

39.4(1) *Single taxpayers.* The term "single person" includes, for income tax purposes, an unmarried person, a person legally separated under a decree of divorce or separate maintenance or any other person not properly classified under subrules 39.4(2) through 39.4(8).

39.4(2) *Married taxpayers.* A taxpayer is considered married for the entire year if on the last day of the tax year the taxpayer is (a) married and living together with the taxpayer's spouse, (b) married and living apart from the spouse, but not legally separated under a decree of divorce or separate maintenance, (c) living together with the spouse in a common law marriage that is recognized by the state where the common law marriage exists or (d) widowed but the spouse died during the year.

39.4(3) *Common law marriage.* A common law marriage is a social relationship between a man and a woman that meets all the necessary requisites of a marriage except that it was not solemnized, performed or witnessed by an official authorized by law to perform marriages. The necessary elements of a common law marriage are: (a) a present intent of both parties freely given to become married, (b) a public declaration by the parties or a holding out to the public that they are husband and wife, (c) continuous cohabitation together as husband and wife (this means consummation of the marriage), and (d) both parties must be capable of entering into the marriage relationship. No special time limit is necessary to establish a common law marriage. Iowa recognizes, for income tax purposes, all valid common law marriages.

39.4(4) *Married filing jointly.* Married taxpayers who file a joint return with the Internal Revenue Service may file a joint return with the Iowa department of revenue.

39.4(5) *Married filing separately on the same form.* Married taxpayers may file separately on the same form. This return is also known as the combined return. If a married taxpayer files a combined return with his or her spouse, any refund will be issued in both names.

39.4(6) *Married filing separately.* Married taxpayers, each having income in his or her own right, may file separate returns if they do not wish to file separately on the same form.

39.4(7) *Head of household.* The term "head of household" denotes a single individual and shall have the same meaning as defined in the Internal Revenue Code as defined in the Iowa Code. An individual who is claiming "surviving spouse" status for federal income tax purposes may not claim "head of household" on the Iowa individual income tax return.

39.4(8) *Surviving spouse.* The term "surviving spouse" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Internal Revenue Code. Individuals who qualify and file as a qualifying widow(er) with a dependent child on the federal return may file using the same filing status on the Iowa return.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.12.

701—39.5(422) Payment of tax.

39.5(1) *Payment of tax for wage earners.* Withholding of tax on wage earners is required under Iowa Code section 422.16. See 701—Chapter 46.

39.5(2) *Payment of tax on income not subject to withholding.* Those taxpayers with income not subject to withholding which will produce a tax liability of \$200 or more shall file and pay a declaration of estimated tax. See 701—Chapter 49.

39.5(3) *Full estimated payment on original due date.* When an extension is requested as provided by Iowa Code section 422.21, the total amount of estimated tax must be paid on or before the due date for filing the return.

39.5(4) *Balance of tax due.* If the computation on the tax return shows additional tax due, it shall be paid in full with the filing of the return.

39.5(5) *Payment of tax by uncertified checks.* The department will accept uncertified checks in payment of income taxes, provided the checks are collectible for their full amount without any deduction for exchange or other charges. The date on which the department receives the check will be considered the date of payment, so far as the taxpayer is concerned, unless the check is returned dishonored. If one check is remitted to cover two or more individuals' taxes, the remittance must be accompanied by a letter of transmittal stating: (a) the name of the drawer of the check; (b) the amount of the check; (c) the amount of any cash, money order or other instrument included in the same remittance; (d) the name of each individual whose tax is to be paid by the remittance; and (e) the amount of payment on account of each individual.

39.5(6) *Procedure with respect to dishonored checks.* If any check is returned unpaid, all expenses incidental to the collection thereof will be charged to the taxpayer. If any taxpayer whose check has been returned by the depository bank uncollected should fail at once to make that check good, the director will proceed to collect the tax as though no check has been given. A taxpayer who tenders a certified check in payment for taxes is not relieved from obligation until the check has been paid.

39.5(7) *Penalty and interest.* In computing penalty and interest for failing to file a timely return or to pay the tax, refer to 701—Chapter 44.

39.5(8) *Five thousand dollar exemption.* Rescinded IAB 11/24/04, effective 12/29/04.

39.5(9) *Seven thousand five hundred dollar exemption.* Rescinded IAB 11/24/04, effective 12/29/04.

39.5(10) *Eleven thousand five hundred dollar exemption and thirteen thousand five hundred dollar exemption.* For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993, all taxpayers except single taxpayers described in subrule 39.4(1), whose net income as computed under Iowa Code section 422.7, plus the amount of a lump sum distribution for which the taxpayer has elected to be separately taxed for federal income tax purposes, is \$13,500 or less (\$11,500 or less for tax years beginning in the 1992 calendar year), are exempt from paying Iowa individual income tax subject to the following conditions:

a. In the case of married taxpayers, the incomes of both spouses are considered in order to determine if the taxpayers qualify for exemption from tax. However, in the case of married taxpayers where one spouse has a net operating loss and the taxpayers file separate Iowa returns or separately on the combined return form, the taxpayers cannot receive the benefit of the exemption from tax if the spouse with the loss elects to carry back or carry forward that loss.

b. An individual claimed as a dependent on another person's return with an income of at least \$3,000, but not more than \$13,500 (\$11,500 for tax years beginning in 1992), will be exempt from Iowa tax if:

(1) The person on whose return the dependent is claimed is filing as a single individual and has a net income of \$9,000 or less (\$7,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992), or

(2) The person on whose return the dependent is claimed and the person's spouse have a combined net income of \$13,500 or less (\$11,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992).

(3) The person on whose return the dependent is claimed is filing as an unmarried head of household or as a surviving spouse and has a net income of \$13,500 or less (\$11,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992).

c. If the payment of tax would reduce the net income to less than \$13,500 (\$11,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992), the tax shall be reduced to an amount which would allow the taxpayer to retain a net income of \$13,500 (\$11,500 for tax years beginning in 1992). For example: If a taxpayer's net income was \$13,600 and the computed tax after personal exemptions and other credits was \$300, the payment of \$300 would reduce the income below \$13,500; therefore, the amount of tax is reduced to \$100 so the taxpayer can retain a net income of \$13,500.

39.5(11) *Seven thousand five hundred dollar exemption and nine thousand dollar exemption.* For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993, single taxpayers described in subrule 39.4(1), whose net income as computed under Iowa Code section 422.7, plus the amount of a lump sum distribution for which the taxpayer has elected to be separately taxed for federal income tax purposes is \$9,000 or less (\$7,500 or less for tax years beginning in the 1992 calendar year), are exempt from paying Iowa individual income tax subject to the following conditions:

a. An individual claimed as a dependent on another person's return with an income of at least \$3,000 but not more than \$9,000 (\$7,500 for tax years beginning in 1992) will be exempt from tax if:

(1) The person on whose return the dependent is claimed has a net income of \$9,000 or less (\$7,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992), or

(2) The person on whose return the dependent is claimed and the person's spouse have a combined net income of \$13,500 or less (\$11,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992).

(3) The person on whose return the dependent is claimed is filing as an unmarried head of household or as a surviving spouse and has a net income of \$13,500 or less (\$11,500 or less for tax years beginning in 1992).

b. If the payment of tax would reduce the net income to less than \$9,000 (\$7,500 for tax years beginning in 1992), the tax is reduced to an amount which will allow the taxpayer to retain a net income of \$9,000 (\$7,500 for tax years beginning in 1992).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.5, 422.16, 422.17, 422.21, 422.24, and 422.25.

701—39.6(422) Minimum tax.

39.6(1) *Minimum tax for tax years beginning on or after 1982, but before 1985.* Rescinded IAB 11/24/04, effective 12/29/04.

39.6(2) *Minimum tax for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1985, but before January 1, 1987.* Rescinded IAB 11/24/04, effective 12/29/04.

39.6(3) *Minimum tax for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987.*

a. *Method for computation of the minimum tax.* For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987, the minimum tax is imposed only to the extent that the minimum tax exceeds the taxpayer's regular income tax liability. The minimum tax rate is 75 percent of the maximum regular tax rate for individual income tax. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987, through December 31, 1997, the tax rate is 7.5 percent of the taxpayer's minimum taxable income. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1998, the tax rate is 6.7 percent of the taxpayer's minimum taxable income. Minimum taxable income is computed as follows:

Iowa Taxable Income

Plus: *Applicable Adjustments and **Tax Preference Items (from Form IA 6251)

Subtotal

Less: ***Applicable Exemption Amount

Minimum Taxable Income

(1) *The federal adjustments that are also applicable in computing state minimum taxable income are:

1. Depreciation of property placed in service after 1986.
2. Circulation and research and experimental expenditures paid or incurred after 1986.
3. Mining, exploration, and development costs paid or incurred after 1986.
4. Long-term contracts entered into after 2-28-86.
5. Pollution control facilities placed in service after 1986.
6. Installment sales of certain property.
7. Basis adjustment.
8. Certain loss limitations.
9. Tax shelter farm loss.
10. Passive activity loss.
11. Adjustments related to beneficiaries of estates and trusts.

(2) **The federal tax preference items which are also applicable in computing state minimum taxable income are:

1. Accelerated depreciation of real property placed in service before 1987.
2. Accelerated depreciation on leased personal property placed in service before 1987.
3. Amortization of certified pollution control facilities placed in service before 1987.
4. Appreciated property charitable deduction.
5. Incentive stock options.
6. Reserves for losses on bad debts of financial institutions.

For tax periods ending on or after September 10, 2001, any federal adjustments or tax preference items that are determined based on a percentage of taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income may have to be adjusted for Iowa alternative minimum tax purposes. These adjustments and preferences for Iowa alternative minimum tax purposes are based on federal adjusted gross income as adjusted by the disallowance of the additional first-year depreciation allowance authorized in Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code as described in rule 701—40.60(422).

(3) ***Exemption amounts are: \$17,500 for a married person filing a separate return or separately on the combined return form or for an estate or trust; \$26,000 for a single person or an unmarried head of household or qualifying widow(er); \$35,000 for a married couple filing a joint return. However, the applicable exemption amounts will be reduced, but not below zero, by 25 percent of the amount by which the minimum taxable income of the taxpayer determined without the exemption amount exceeds the following amounts: \$75,000 for a married taxpayer filing separate returns or separately on the combined return or for an estate or a trust; \$112,500 for a single person, an unmarried head of household, or a surviving spouse (qualifying widow(er)); \$150,000 for a married couple that files a joint state return.

The following two examples illustrate how the minimum tax is computed for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987:

EXAMPLE 1. Taxpayers A had an Iowa income tax liability of \$9,375 from a taxable income of \$100,000 in 1987. The A's were filing a joint return and had tax preferences of \$60,000 from an appreciated property charitable deduction. The A's minimum tax liability is shown below:

	Iowa Taxable Income	\$100,000
Plus:	Tax Preference Items and Adjustments	<u>60,000</u>
	Subtotal	160,000
Less:	Exemption Amount	<u>35,000</u>
	Minimum Taxable Income	\$125,000
		$\times .075$
	Computed Minimum Tax	\$ 9,375
Less:	Regular Tax	<u>8,648</u>
	Minimum Tax Liability	\$ 727

Since the A's minimum tax liability exceeded their regular tax by \$727, they had a minimum tax liability of \$727 in 1987.

EXAMPLE 2. Ms. B was a single taxpayer in 1987. She had a regular income tax liability of \$9,375 on taxable income of \$100,000. She had an adjustment of \$50,000 from a passive activity loss. Ms. B's minimum tax liability is shown below:

	Iowa Taxable Income	\$100,000
Plus:	Tax Preference Items and Adjustments	<u>50,000</u>
	Subtotal	\$150,000
Less:	Exemption Amount	<u>35,000</u>
	Subtotal	\$115,000
Plus:	Reduction in Exemption Amount (25% of \$37,500)	<u>9,375</u>
	Minimum Taxable Income	\$124,375
		$\times .075$
	Computed Minimum Tax	\$ 9,328
Less:	Regular Tax	<u>8,648</u>
	Minimum Tax Liability	\$ 680

Ms. B had a minimum tax liability of \$680 in 1987 because the minimum tax exceeded the regular tax for 1987 by \$680.

b. *Net operating loss computed for a year beginning after 1982 which is carried back or carried forward to the current taxable year.* In the case of a net operating loss computed for a tax year beginning after December 31, 1982, which is carried back or carried forward to the current tax year, the net operating loss shall be reduced by the amount of the items of tax preference arising in the current tax year.

c. *Net operating loss deduction for tax years beginning after December 31, 1986.* The deduction for a net operating loss for a tax year beginning after December 31, 1986, which is carried back or carried forward to another tax year shall not exceed 90 percent of the minimum taxable income computed for the tax year without the net operating loss. The computation of minimum taxable income is described in paragraph “a” of this subrule.

d. *Apportionment of minimum tax for nonresidents and part-year residents and nonresident and part-year resident estates or trusts.* In the case of resident taxpayers, including estates or trusts domiciled in Iowa for the entire tax year, the taxpayers are subject to 100 percent of the minimum tax computed as described in paragraph “a” of this subrule. In the case of nonresidents of Iowa including nonresident estates and trusts and individuals, including estates and trusts domiciled in Iowa for less than the entire tax year, the minimum tax computed according to paragraph “a” of this subrule less applicable credits against tax is allocated to Iowa as shown below:

State Minimum Tax
Less Credits

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Iowa Source Net Income Plus Tax
Preferences, Adjustments and
Losses Attributable to Iowa

Total Net Income Plus All Tax
Preferences, Adjustments and Losses

For purposes of this computation, only those adjustments, tax preferences, and losses shown on Form IA 6251 are applicable for determining which items shall be included in the numerator and the denominator.

e. *Allocation of the state minimum tax between married couples filing separate returns or separately on the combined return form.* Married taxpayers electing to file separate returns or separately on the combined return form must allocate the minimum tax between them in the proportion that each spouse’s respective preference items, adjustments, and losses relate to the preference items, adjustments and losses of both spouses.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.5 as amended by 2003 Iowa Acts, Senate File 442.

701—39.7(422) Tax on lump-sum distributions. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1982, Iowa Code section 422.5 provides that in addition to the tax computed on the taxable income, a tax shall also be imposed on the amount of a lump-sum distribution for which the taxpayer has elected under Section 402(e) of the Internal Revenue Code to be separately taxed for federal income tax purposes for the tax year. The rate of this tax is 25 percent of the separate federal tax imposed on the amount of the lump-sum distribution.

39.7(1) Five thousand dollar exemption (\$7,500 exemption for all taxpayers except single taxpayers for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987). To be eligible for the \$5,000 or less exemption as provided in Iowa Code section 422.5, the total amount of a lump-sum distribution subject to the separate federal tax must be included in the net income. If this net income (including the lump-sum distribution income) is less than \$5,000, then no tax (other than Iowa minimum tax) is due. The Iowa tax on lump-sum distributions and the computed tax may be limited to the amount of income tax that exceeds \$5,000 (including the lump-sum income). Example: If the net income including a lump-sum distribution was \$5,030 and the computed tax and lump-sum tax was \$50 after personal exemptions and out-of-state credit, the payment of \$50 tax would reduce the income below \$5,000; therefore, the amount of tax due is reduced to \$30 which enables the taxpayer to retain a net income of \$5,000. Note that for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987, the \$5,000 or less exemption is increased to \$7,500 or less for all taxpayers except single taxpayers described in subrule 39.4(1).

39.7(2) Nonresidents. A nonresident is liable for tax on a lump-sum distribution or a portion of a lump-sum distribution attributable to services performed within Iowa. If a distribution to a nonresident is attributable to services performed both within and outside Iowa, the tax must be allocated in the ratio of the income from services performed within Iowa to the total income from all services performed relating to the lump-sum distribution unless it can be shown that another method of proration would result in a more equitable amount of tax on the distribution.

39.7(3) Penalty and interest. In computing penalty and interest for failing to file a timely return or to pay the lump-sum tax, refer to 701—Chapter 44.

39.7(4) Personal exemption credits. Personal and dependent exemption credits may be applied against the separate lump-sum tax to the extent that the credits are not fully applied against the computed tax on income reported under Iowa Code section 422.7.

39.7(5) Out-of-state tax credit. When computing an out-of-state tax credit for a year in which tax on a lump-sum distribution has been computed separately, the amount of the lump-sum distribution on which the separate tax has been computed must be included on the Iowa gross income.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.5.

701—39.8(422) State income tax limited to taxpayer's net worth immediately before the distressed sale. Taxpayers whose net incomes include gains or losses from distressed sales may limit their state income tax liabilities for the tax years in which the distress sales occurred to their net worths immediately before the distressed sales. The state income tax liability of a taxpayer is the aggregate of the taxpayer's income tax plus the taxpayer's minimum tax plus the taxpayer's lump-sum tax. For purposes of this provision, a distressed sale is the forfeiture of an installment real estate contract, the transfer of real or personal property securing a debt to a creditor in cancellation of that debt, or from the sale or exchange of property as a result of actual notice of foreclosure. Proof of forfeiture of the installment real estate contract, proof of transfer of property to a creditor in cancellation of a debt, or a copy of the notice of foreclosure will constitute documentation of the distressed sale and must be made a part of the return. A copy of the balance sheet showing the taxpayer's net worth immediately before the distressed sale must also be provided with the return.

The balance sheet supporting the taxpayer’s net worth must include the taxpayer’s personal assets and liabilities as well as the assets of the taxpayer’s farm or other business. In the case of married taxpayers, except in the case of a husband and wife who lived apart at all times during the tax year, the assets and liabilities of both spouses must be considered in determining the taxpayers’ net worth immediately before the distressed sale.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.5.

701—39.9(422) Special tax computation for all low-income taxpayers except single taxpayers.

For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1987, a special tax computation is available for determining the state income tax liability for all low-income taxpayers except single taxpayers described in subrule 39.4(1). Under this provision, the taxpayer multiplies the net income for the tax year in excess of \$7,500 (net income in excess of \$11,500 for tax years beginning in 1992) or (net income in excess of \$13,500 for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993) by the maximum individual income tax rate. The tax amount computed by this procedure is then compared to the tax amount on the individual’s taxable income from the tax tables or the tax-rate schedule. The taxpayer is subject to the lesser of the two tax amounts. In the case of married taxpayers electing to file separate returns or separately on the combined return form, the incomes of both spouses must be considered for purposes of determining the tax liability from the special tax computation. The tax liability calculated from the special tax computation is allocated between the spouses in the ratio of each spouse’s net income to the combined net income of both spouses.

For example, a married couple’s net income in 1987 was \$8,200. The taxpayers elected to file separately on the combined return form for 1987. One spouse had a net income of \$6,000, the second spouse had a net income of \$2,200. There was no federal income tax withheld on the wages earned by either of the taxpayers. The spouse with the net income of \$6,000 had a regular income tax liability of \$105. The spouse with the net income of \$2,200 had a regular income tax liability of \$4. The special tax computation of these taxpayers is shown below:

	Taxpayers’ combined net income	\$8,200
	(\$6,000 + \$2,200)	
Less:	Income not subject to special tax	<u>7,500</u>
	Income subject to special tax	700
		<u>× 9.98%</u>
	Special tax liability for 1987	\$ 70

The taxpayers’ special tax liability for 1987 was \$70. The special tax is imposed since it is less than the taxpayers’ regular tax liability of \$109. This special tax liability is allocated to each spouse on the following basis:

Spouse 1	Spouse 2
$\frac{\$6,000}{\$8,200} \times 70 = \$51$	$\frac{\$2,200}{\$8,200} \times 70 = \$19$

The special tax computation for low-income taxpayers is not available to married taxpayers filing separate state returns or to married taxpayers filing separately on the combined return form in instances where one of the spouses has a net operating loss described in Iowa Code section 422.9, subsection 3, and the spouse elects to carry back or carry forward the net operating loss.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.5.

701—39.10(422) Election to report excess income from sale or exchange of livestock due to drought in the next tax year. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1990, a taxpayer may elect to report excess income from the sale or exchange of livestock due to drought on the Iowa return for the next tax year if the taxpayer qualified for similar treatment of the excess income under Section 451(e) of the Internal Revenue Code. This election is available only to a taxpayer on the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting whose principal trade or business is farming as described in Section 6420(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this rule the election applies to all livestock held for sale or exchange, whether raised or purchased for resale. This election also applies to livestock used for draft, breeding, dairy, or sporting purposes which were held less than two years in the case of cattle and horses and less than one year in the case of other livestock. For purposes of this election, livestock does not include poultry.

The area in which the livestock was sold or exchanged must have been declared a disaster area due to drought. However, the sale or exchange can take place before or after the area is declared a disaster area as long as the same disaster (the drought) caused the livestock sale. In order for the election to report excess income in the following tax year to be valid, the election must be made by the due date of the return, including extensions. Additional information about computing the excess income as well as information needed on the statement for making the election is described in Treasury Regulation §1.451-7.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.5.

701—39.11(422) Forgiveness of tax for an individual whose federal income tax was forgiven because the individual was killed outside the United States due to military or terroristic action. For tax years ending on or after August 2, 1990, an individual's Iowa income tax is forgiven if the person's federal income tax was forgiven because the individual was killed in a combat zone, the individual was missing in action and presumed dead, or the individual was killed outside the United States due to terrorist or military action while the person was a military or civilian employee of the United States. The Iowa income tax is forgiven on the return for the tax year in which the individual was killed or was missing and was presumed dead, and is forgiven on the return for the tax year prior to the year of death. In a situation where the person that was killed was married at the time of death, no tax will be due on the return filed for the year of death if a joint state return or a married filing separately on the combined state return is filed for that tax year. In the case of the return for the tax year prior to the year of death for the person killed in military or terrorist action, all the tax will be forgiven on the return if the person was married at the time of death and a joint state return or a married filing separate state return was filed for this prior year. However, if the person that was killed had filed a return using the married filing separately on the combined return form status, only the state income tax attributable to the person that was killed will be forgiven. The department will not honor an amended return for the prior year to change the filing status from separately on the combined return form to joint return so all the state income tax for both spouses will be forgiven.

When a state income tax return or claim for refund is filed for forgiveness of tax for an individual who was killed in military or terrorist action, a notation should be entered at the top of the return "Forgiveness of Tax—Killed in Military Action" or "Forgiveness of Tax—Killed in Terrorist Action" depending on how the individual was killed. In addition, a copy of the death certificate, or other evidence of the person's death or evidence establishing that the individual is missing in action and presumed dead, should be attached to the claim for refund or the tax return. A refund claim for forgiveness of tax will be honored only if the claim is made within the statute of limitations for refund provided in Iowa Code subsection 422.73(2).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.5 and 422.73.

701—39.12(422) Tax benefits for persons in the armed forces serving in a combat zone or a qualified hazardous duty area or deployed outside the United States in a contingency operation. For tax years ending after August 2, 1990, a number of state tax benefits are authorized for persons in the armed forces who serve in an area designated by the President and the Congress as a combat zone. Similar state tax benefits are also authorized for persons who serve in an area designated by the President and the Congress as a qualified hazardous duty area for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1999. In addition, uniform state tax benefits are authorized for persons in the armed forces of the United States who were deployed outside the United States in an operation designated by the Secretary of Defense as a contingency operation as defined in 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13), or which became a contingency operation by the operation of law. Persons who were deployed in a contingency operation who ceased to participate in such operation on or after May 21, 2003, are considered to be eligible individuals for purposes of being granted additional time to perform certain acts with the department to the extent the period for performing an act did not expire prior to May 21, 2003, or a later date if the person ceased to participate in the contingency operation on a date after May 21, 2003. Those persons who were serving in support of the armed forces personnel in a combat zone or those persons who were serving in support of armed forces personnel in a qualified hazardous duty area are also eligible for the state tax benefits. The eligible individuals are given the same additional time period to file state income tax returns and perform other acts related to the department of revenue as would constitute timely filing of returns or timely performance of other acts as described in Section 7508(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. "Other acts related to the department" includes filing claims for refund for any type of tax administered by the department, making tax payments other than withholding payments, filing appeals on tax matters, filing returns for taxes other than income tax, and performing other acts such as making timely contributions to individual retirement accounts. The additional time period for filing returns and performing other acts applies to the spouse of the person who was in the combat zone or the qualified hazardous duty area or the spouse of a person who was serving in support of persons in the combat zone or the hazardous duty area to the extent the spouse files jointly or separately on the combined return with the person who was in the combat zone or the hazardous duty area, or when the spouse is a party with the person who was serving in support of persons in the combat zone or hazardous duty area to any tax matter with the department for which the additional time period is allowed. The additional time period for filing state returns and performing other acts is 180 days after the person leaves the combat zone or hazardous duty area or ceases to participate in the contingency operation which is the same time period as allowed in federal income tax law. However, a person who was hospitalized because of illness or injury in the combat zone or the hazardous duty area has up to five years to file returns or perform certain acts with this department after leaving the combat zone or hazardous duty area.

For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1995, certain persons performing peacekeeping duties in a location designated by Congress as a qualified hazardous duty area or other individuals performing military duties overseas in support of the persons in the hazardous duty area are eligible for the tax benefits described above. See rule 39.14(422) for additional information on the Bosnia-Herzegovina hazardous duty area.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.3 and 422.21 as amended by 2003 Iowa Acts, House File 674.

701—39.13(422) Electronic filing of Iowa individual income tax returns. Electronic filing allows individuals who meet qualifications set out by the department to file their Iowa income tax returns electronically. All information is electronically transmitted. Nothing is submitted on paper, unless specifically requested by the department. A taxpayer's electronic Iowa return will include the same information as if the taxpayer had filed a paper Iowa return.

There is no statutory requirement that provides that individuals must file their Iowa income tax return electronically; therefore, taxpayers have the option to file by paper. The department may provide a variety of paperless filing options and will determine the criteria for each option on an annual basis. These options may include electronic filing, TeleFiling, or WebFiling.

39.13(1) Definitions. For the purpose of this rule, the following definitions apply, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Acknowledgment (ACK)" means a report generated by the department and sent to a transmitter indicating receipt of all transmissions.

"Declaration control number (DCN)" means a unique 14-digit number assigned by the ERO or transmitter to each electronic return.

"Department" means the Iowa department of revenue.

"Direct deposit" means an electronic transfer of a refund into a taxpayer's financial institution account.

"Electronic filing" means any paperless filing option approved by the department, including federal/state electronic filing (piggyback), federal/state electronic filing (state-only), TeleFile, and WebFile.

"Electronic return originator (ERO)" means an entity that originates the electronic submission of income tax returns.

"Federal/state electronic filing (piggyback)" means a process that allows the federal and state income tax returns to be simultaneously filed electronically.

"Federal/state electronic filing (state-only)" means a process that allows the Iowa income tax return to be filed electronically without filing the federal return, but an electronic copy of the federal information is still sent to Iowa. Current-year amended returns may also be filed using this process.

"IA 8453" means a taxpayer declaration form that authenticates the electronic IA 1040, authorizes its transmission, and designates payment method of any refund, including consent to direct deposit if requested.

"PIN signature alternative" means a process that allows filing a completely paperless tax return. The 5-digit PIN number is selected by the taxpayer and input by the ERO.

"Software developer" means an E-file provider that, according to IRS and Iowa specifications, develops software for the purposes of formatting electronic portions of returns or transmitting the electronic portions of returns directly to the IRS, or both. A software developer may also sell its software.

"Stockpiling" means collecting returns from taxpayers or from other electronic filers and waiting more than three calendar days to transmit the returns to the department after receiving the information necessary for transmission.

“*TeleFile*” means a process that allows taxpayers to file Iowa income tax returns by telephone.

“*Transmitter*” means an E-file provider that transmits electronic portions of returns directly to the IRS.

“*WebFile*” means a process that allows taxpayers to file Iowa tax returns over the Internet at the department’s Web site.

39.13(2) *Completion of the electronic return.* All amounts must be in whole dollars and must match the information on the electronic record for the return. The DCN on the state return must match that used on the taxpayer’s federal return when filing piggyback. The department has adopted the PIN signature alternative as implemented by the IRS. If the ERO elects not to use this signature alternative, the IA 8453 must be completed, signed by the preparer, ERO, and taxpayer(s) and retained by the preparer. The PIN signature alternative is not an option for state-only returns.

If the ERO makes changes to the electronic return after the taxpayer(s) has signed the return but before it is transmitted, and the net income differs by more than \$50 or any of the other amounts on the IA 8453 differ by more than \$14, a new form must be completed and signed by the taxpayer(s) before the return is transmitted.

The ERO must provide the taxpayer with the following information: copy of the data transmitted, copies of the IA 8453, W-2s, 1099s, and any other schedules. The ERO should also provide a payment voucher and mailing address, if applicable.

The taxpayer and ERO shall retain all tax documentation for three years. The IA 8453 must be signed by the taxpayer(s), preparer and ERO unless the PIN signature alternative is used. The IA 8453 and accompanying schedules are to be furnished to the department only when specifically requested.

In situations in which the ERO ceases operation, the ERO is required to send the IA 8453 forms and all supporting documents to the department, if the income tax return is dated within three years from the due date or date filed. If the ERO is unable to retain the IA 8453 forms and all supporting documents, the ERO may request permission to deliver them to the department.

39.13(3) *Direct deposit.* Taxpayers may designate direct deposit of the Iowa refund on electronically filed returns. Taxpayers must provide proof of account ownership to the ERO. The department is not responsible for the misapplication of a direct deposit of a refund caused by error, negligence, or wrongdoing on the part of the taxpayer, electronic filer, financial institution or any agent of the above. The account designated to receive the direct deposit must be in the taxpayer’s name. If the taxpayer’s filing status on the return is “married filing a joint return” or “married filing separately on this combined return,” the account may be in either spouse’s name or both spouses’ names. If the filing status is married filing separately, the account may be in the taxpayer’s name or may be a joint account in both spouses’ names. If the filing status is “married filing separate returns,” a direct deposit cannot be made if the account is only in the name of the other spouse.

The taxpayer’s signature or taxpayers’ signatures on the IA 8453 provide irrevocable approval of a direct deposit. Once the return has been transmitted, the direct deposit information may not be corrected. The department may, when processing procedures require, convert a request for direct deposit to a paper warrant. If refunds are sent to an incorrect bank account, the department will issue a paper refund check once the funds are returned by the financial institution.

39.13(4) *Software approval.* Software developers are required to submit a letter of intent, including the name, address, and telephone number of a contact person and a copy of IRS Form 8633 (Application to Participate in the Electronic Filing Program) in order to be considered for participation in the Iowa electronic filing program. The department will provide an application form, specifications, test package and procedures for companies wishing to develop software for electronic filing of Iowa returns. Specifications for the software developers are explained in IRS Publication 1346 and Iowa Publication 16-107, "Electronic Return File Specifications and Record Layouts." The developers will also be provided with test data and instructions so that developers may test their programs for processing electronic returns with the department. Software developers are required to pass transmission tests before the developers' software will be approved for electronic filing of Iowa income tax returns. The test period shall be defined annually by the department.

39.13(5) *ERO approval.* Only returns transmitted by EROs that are approved by the IRS will be accepted by the department. Once accepted by the IRS as an ERO for a specific tax year, the ERO is automatically accepted to file Iowa returns. There is no additional notification or approval process required by the department.

39.13(6) *Suspension of an electronic filer from participation in the Iowa electronic filing program.* The department may immediately suspend, without notice, an electronic filer from the Iowa electronic filing program. However, in most cases, a suspension from the Iowa electronic filing program is effective as of the date of the letter informing the electronic filer of the suspension. Before suspending an electronic filer, the department may issue a warning letter which describes specific corrective action required because of deviations from this rule.

If an electronic filer is either denied participation in the federal electronic filing program or is suspended from the federal program, the electronic filer shall automatically be prohibited from participation in the Iowa electronic filing program.

An electronic filer who is eligible to participate in the federal electronic filing program may be suspended from the Iowa electronic filing program if the electronic filer has allowed any of the following conditions to occur. This list is not all-inclusive.

- a. Deterioration in the format of transmissions of individual Iowa returns;
- b. Unacceptable cumulative error or rejection rate or failure to correct errors in transmission of Iowa returns;
- c. Untimely received, illegible, incomplete, missing, or unapproved substitute IA 8453 forms;
- d. Stockpiling returns at any time while participating in the Iowa electronic filing program;
- e. Failure on the part of the transmitter to retrieve an acknowledgment file within two working days of transmission by the department;
- f. Failure on the part of the transmitter to initiate the communication of acknowledgment files to the electronic return originator (ERO) within two working days of transmission by the department;
- g. Significant complaints about the electronic filer;
- h. Failure on the part of the electronic filer to cooperate with the department's efforts to monitor electronic filers, investigate electronic filing abuse, and investigate the possible filing of fraudulent returns;
- i. Submitting the electronic portion of a return with information which is not identical to information on the IA 8453;
- j. Transmitting the Iowa return with software that was not approved for use in the Iowa electronic filing program;
- k. Failure on the part of the electronic filer to provide W-2s, 1099s, or out-of-state tax returns when requested.

39.13(7) *Administrative procedure for denial of an electronic filer's participation in the Iowa electronic filing program or for suspension of an electronic filer from the Iowa electronic filing program.* In a situation in which an electronic filer has requested participation in the Iowa electronic filing program but there is a reason to deny the electronic filer's participation, the department will send the electronic filer a letter to advise that the electronic filer will be denied entry into the program. In another situation in which an electronic filer is a participant in the Iowa electronic filing program but the electronic filer is to be suspended from the program for any conditions described in subrule 39.13(6), the department will send the electronic filer a letter to notify the filer about the electronic filer's suspension from the program.

In cases in which the electronic filer either disagrees with the denial of participation letter or the suspension from participation letter, the electronic filer must file a written protest to the department within 60 days of the date of the denial letter or the suspension letter. The written protest must be filed pursuant to rule 701—7.41(17A). During the administrative review process, the denial of an electronic filer's participation in or the suspension of an electronic filer from the Iowa electronic filing program will remain in effect.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.21 and 422.68.

701—39.14(422) Tax benefits for persons serving in support of the Bosnia-Herzegovina hazardous duty area. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1995, a number of state tax benefits are authorized for individuals serving in a location designated by the President and Congress as a qualified hazardous duty area or other persons serving in support of the individuals in the hazardous duty area. Public Law No. 104-117 was enacted by Congress on March 20, 1996, and designated Bosnia, Herzegovina, Croatia, and Macedonia as a qualified hazardous duty area so that troops performing peacekeeping duties in the area would be eligible for tax benefits for federal income tax purposes on the same basis they would have been eligible for the same benefits if they had served in a combat zone under prior law.

For Iowa tax purposes, persons serving peacekeeping duties in the hazardous duty area or other persons serving overseas in support of the persons in the hazardous duty area will be eligible for the same tax benefits that were previously only available to persons serving military duties in a combat zone. The tax benefits that are available for persons serving in the hazardous duty area or persons serving overseas in support of the persons in the hazardous duty area are described in rule 39.12(422).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.3 as amended by 1996 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2168.

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